GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5206
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2008
UPKEEP OF PARKS SANCTUARIES PROTECTED FORESTS .
Jogi Shri Ajit

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the national parks/wildlife sanctuaries/protected forests are in a bad condition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposals from various States for the development and upkeep of these sanctuaries/national zoological parks etc. during the last three years including the current year; and

(d) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the steps being taken to accord approval to these proposals?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S.REGUPATHY)

(a)&(b) There are 658 Protected Areas in the country. As per the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, the responsibility for management of National Parks/Sanctuaries lies primarily with the concerned State/UT Governments. There are no reports of systematic and comprehensive evaluation of all the Protected Areas in the country to assess the overall condition. However, due to severe biotic interferences, large number of Protected Areas in India are under pressure.

(c)&(d) Based on the proposals received in the form of Annual Plan of Operations, Union Government provides financial and technical assistance to State /UT Governments for the conservation and management of wildlife and its habitats under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes − Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries, Project Tiger and Project Elephant. Such proposals are processed by the Central Government subject to the availability of funds and fulfillment of other procedural requirement. State-wise details of fund released under the various Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last three financial years are at Annexure I, II and III. Similarly, the details of fund released to National Zoological Park, Delhi by the Central Government during the last three financial years are at Annexure IV. During the current financial year i.e. 2008-09, proposals only in respect of Simlipal Tiger Reserve, Orissa and Pench Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh, under the Scheme "Project Tiger", have been received.